

13

In particular, during talking, the opening/closing angle is restricted to approximately 160 degrees. This enables the user to cause the speaker on the upper-side body unit and the microphone on the lower-side body unit to exactly fit to the ear and mouth of the user, respectively. In addition, during talking, when the upper-side body unit is rotated with respect to the lower-side body unit into a sideways position, the upper-side body unit assumes a position parallel to the keys arranged on the operation section of the lower-side body unit. This simultaneously meets ease of talking and ease of seeing display, thereby providing more improved usability.

What is claimed is:

1. A foldable and portable mobile communication terminal configured as a two-folded type by openably and closably coupling, by a hinge mechanism, a lower-side body unit and an upper-side body unit, said foldable and portable mobile communication terminal comprising:

an operation section, located on said lower-side body unit, comprising a plurality of operation buttons;
a first display on a first side of said upper-side body unit, said first display displaying
a) processing of operational information, and
b) processing of communication information;
a second display on a second side of said upper-side body unit, said second side being opposite said first side, said second display displaying data including call notice; and

a two-shaft hinge mechanism as said hinge mechanism, wherein said two-shaft hinge mechanism comprises a first hinge unit that allows said upper-side body unit to rotate with respect to said lower-side body unit up to the open state defining a predetermined talking position, and a second hinge unit that allows said first hinge unit to rotate in a direction different from said rotational direction of said first hinge unit; and

wherein said first and second hinge units are coupled so that the rotational center axes thereof orthogonally intersect each other.

2. The foldable and portable mobile communication terminal according to claim 1, wherein said first hinge unit is accommodated in said upper-side body unit, and wherein said second hinge unit is accommodated in said lower-side body unit so that a part thereof projects from said lower-side body unit.

3. The foldable and portable mobile communication terminal according to claim 2, wherein:

said first and second hinge units have first and second rotating shafts, respectively;

said two-shaft hinge mechanism defines said predetermined talking position by rotating said upper-side body unit about said first rotating shaft, and also allows said upper-side body unit to rotate about said second rotating shaft at a position within the surface of said lower-side body unit in either of the clockwise and counterclockwise directions; and

said two-shaft hinge mechanism has tilt-angle adjusting functions of controlling the open tilt-angle of said upper-side body unit according to the rotational angle thereof about said second rotating shaft so as to become an angle defining said predetermined talking position and an angle formed by said upper-side body unit rotating about said second rotating shaft off the angle defining said predetermined talking position.

4. A foldable and portable mobile communication terminal configured as a two-folded type by openably and closably coupling, by a hinge mechanism, a lower-side body unit

14

that includes an operation section comprising a plurality of operation buttons, and an upper-side body unit that includes a display section for displaying data on the operational information processing associated with operation with respect to said operation section, and on the processing of communication information with an opposite party, related to said operational information processing, said foldable and portable mobile communication terminal comprising:

a two-shaft hinge mechanism as said hinge mechanism, wherein said two-shaft hinge mechanism comprises a first hinge unit that allows said upper-side body unit to rotate with respect to said lower-side body unit up to the open state defining a predetermined talking position, and a second hinge unit that allows said first hinge unit to rotate in a direction different from said rotational direction of said first hinge unit;

wherein said first and second hinge units are coupled so that the rotational center axes thereof orthogonally intersect each other;

wherein said first hinge unit is accommodated in said upper-side body unit;

wherein said second hinge unit is accommodated in said lower-side body unit so that a part thereof projects from said lower-side body unit; and

wherein

said first and second hinge units have first and second rotating shafts, respectively;

said two-shaft hinge mechanism defines said predetermined talking position by rotating said upper-side body unit about said first rotating shaft, and also allows said upper-side body unit to rotate about said second rotating shaft at a position within the surface of said lower-side body unit in either of the clockwise and counterclockwise directions;

said two-shaft hinge mechanism has tilt-angle adjusting functions of controlling the open tilt-angle of said upper-side body unit according to the rotational angle thereof about said second rotating shaft so as to become an angle defining said predetermined talking position and an angle formed by said upper-side body unit rotating about said second rotating shaft off the angle defining said predetermined talking position;

wherein:

said tilt-angle adjusting functions of said two-shaft hinge mechanism rotate said upper-side body unit about said first rotating shaft from the closed state in which the rotational angle of each of said first and second rotating shafts is 0 degree, up to said open state, and thereafter, said tilt-angle adjusting functions can set said open tilt-angle for defining said predetermined talking position in a range of 160 to 170 degrees;

said tilt-angle adjusting functions can perform setting such that the upper-side body unit can rotate about said second rotating shaft from said open tilt-angle range of 160 to 170 degrees, in an angle range of 180 degrees in either of the clockwise and counterclockwise directions;

when the rotational angle of the upper-side body unit about said second rotating shaft is in a range of 0 to 90 degrees, said tilt-angle adjusting functions can rotate said upper-side body unit from said open tilt-angle range of 160 to 170 degrees up to an open tilt-angle of 180 degrees; and

when the rotational angle of the upper-side body unit about said second rotating shaft is in a range of 90 to 180 degrees, said tilt-angle adjusting functions can